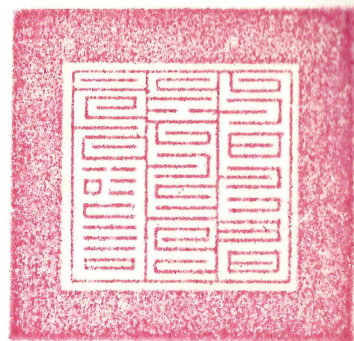


CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

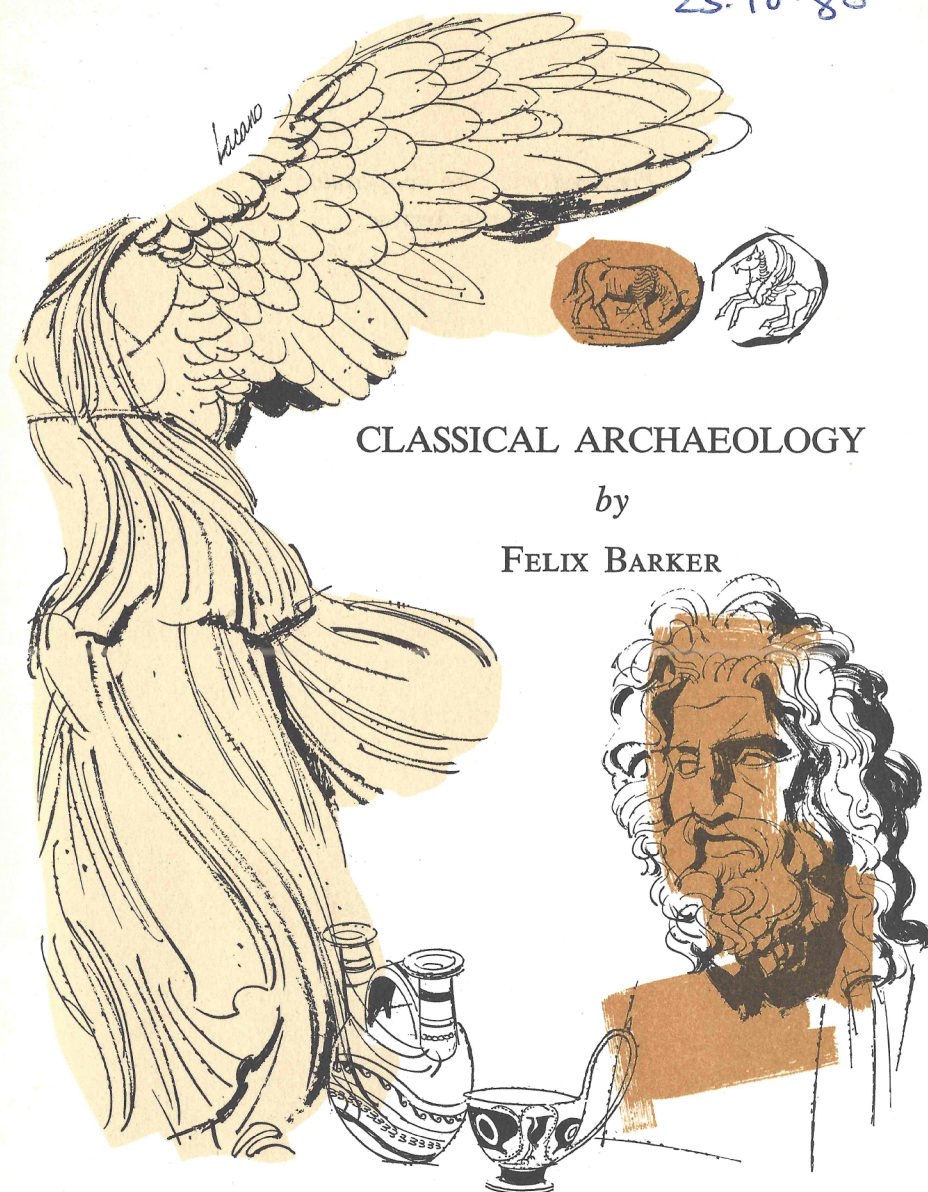


SCIENCE SERVICE

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R. RICHARDS
25.10.80



CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

by

FELIX BARKER

NELSON DOUBLEDAY, INC.

GARDEN CITY, N.Y.

*Prepared with the cooperation of
Science Service*

CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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WHY CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY?

IN THE SECOND HALF of the twentieth century there may seem something remote, almost eccentric, about the study of classical archaeology. The scholar digging into the past on some tiny Aegean Island will appear to many people the supreme ostrich of the nuclear age. As for his learned reports on mosaic pavements, trial pits, and black-glazed pottery, they are unlikely to set the heart singing in any save fellow-specialists.

It is well, therefore, to face the question of why classical archaeology is important in the modern world. How does pre-Christian Graeco-Roman excavation in the Eastern Mediterranean relate to 1965?

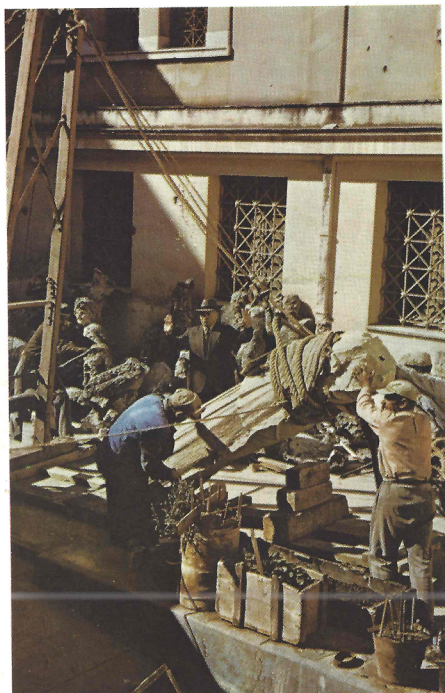
The short answer is that it provides a direct aid to the appreciation of civilized values. It makes it possible to go to the source of a great cultural heritage and learn what we owe to people who lived two thousand and more years ago.

From about 800 B.C. onwards the Greeks formulated ideas of freedom in thought and speech which we have assimilated.

All over their wild, mountainous land they built white marble temples decorated with exquisite sculpture. These buildings have set patterns for us. Throughout Europe, and wherever Europeans have settled, columns and pediments of many public buildings owe their style to the ancient Greeks.

On a bank in Philadelphia (the name itself derived from the Greek word for "brotherly love") we see the Doric portico of the Parthenon, and in Nashville, Tennessee, the great temple has been reproduced to the last detail to make an art gallery—but reproduced in steel and concrete, not marble!

The Hollywood Bowl and many of the most "modern" theatrical structures of today—those of horseshoe shape—copy the form of the 2,000 year old auditorium at Epidaureus.



1.

RE-ERECTING APOLLO

With winch and tackle, the cult statue of Apollo Patroös is removed from the National Museum at Athens preparatory to being erected in its original home, the Temple of Patroös in the Agora.

Modern beauty queens compare their physical statistics with the perfection of the Venus de Milo, the statue of the 1st century B.C. found on the Island of Melos. "Nothing in excess" may sound like a precept handed down by the Pilgrim Fathers, but is, in fact, an inscription on the walls of the temple at Delphi.

In a thousand ways that we take for granted the Greek standards of philosophy, learning, and art continue to influence us.

For this reason we should retain an interest in the classical past. We need to know all we can about the people on whose civilization we so model our own.

True, a vast literature remains, but the path to that knowledge has been much trampled over. Invasion, inundation, earthquake, Roman occupation—all helped to destroy the physical image of our Greek ancestry.

The Goths carried on the destruction. The Turks, rulers of Greece from the 15th century until 1833, completed it. Now it is left to the archaeologist to disinter the broken fragments that can help us to reconstruct a partially lost world.

For professional archaeologists it may be reward enough to dig for thirteen years (as they have at Braurion near Athens) to confirm nine lines in Euripides. The public, however, expects more significant and spectacular discoveries. These have not been lacking, though in recent years interest in "pre-history" has tended to obscure the exciting work being done in the classical field.

Highly dramatic finds by Schliemann, and Evans, have made people forget Ernst Curtius (the German excavator of Olympia), C. T. Newton (who discovered the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus), Alexander Conze (who dug at Samothrace and produced the first "scientific" archaeological report), and T. Leslie Shear (the American who pioneered the first ten years' clearing of the Agora in Athens).

They are the modern disciples of Cyriac of Ancona, the pioneer of classical archaeology, who traveled in Greece collecting material as early as 1412. They follow in the paths of "Athenian" Stuart, his companion



Nicholas Revett, and those other English gentlemen of taste in the 18th century who founded the Society of Dilettanti.

The United States entered the field in 1882 when the American School of Classical Studies was started in Athens with eight students. The British School opened a year later. Today France, Germany, and most of the major nations are cooperating with the Greeks in the enormous amount of work that has to be done.

The extent of modern excavation is scarcely suspected by the general public. The 1961 report of the Council for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies lists no less than seventy-three places on the Greek mainland which yielded finds of interest during the previous year and twenty-six on the Aegean Islands and in Crete.

Over the last six years forty sites have been explored in Magna Graecia—Sicily and Southern Italy—and there is an increased amount of excavation on the Western seaboard of Turkey which was colonized by the Greeks.

With digs in North Africa and other Mediterranean countries, excavations each spring and autumn run into scores—a concentrated, scientific probe by all nations into the unsolved mysteries of classical times.

Below: This photograph, taken 40 years ago, shows part of the "American Sector" of the Agora. *Right:* The remains of the Temple of Olympian Zeus at Athens. The nearest column was blown down about a hundred years ago.





2.

THE PARTHENON

The Parthenon—the temple of Athena on the Acropolis in Athens—is regarded as the finest example of Doric architecture. This is the east end.

“BATTLESHIP ARCHAEOLOGY”

IN THE HISTORY of classical archaeology there is no more controversial figure than Lord Elgin, and the consequences of his seemingly high-handed action in 1801 were enormous. In that year this Scottish peer who was British Ambassador in Turkey shipped back to England sculpture which he had removed from the Parthenon, the temple on the Acropolis at Athens.

Liberally interpreting permission granted him by the Turkish Government (then ruling Greece), Elgin removed enough marble figures to fill 200 packing cases. As these exquisite relics of the age of Pericles were

carried to the port of Paraeus they were, according to a popular Greek legend, heard *shrieking* in protest!

The precious marbles became one of the greatest treasures of the British Museum, an inspiration to generations of artists. In a period before widespread travel, they gave millions of people their first glimpse of the classical past.

But Lord Elgin's action is still hotly debated. It sounds like the work of a vandal. Yet he was acting in good faith, and by the archaeological standards of his day this was not looting. He was regarded as a public benefactor. Had the marbles been left, he maintained, the Turks would almost certainly have allowed them to be destroyed.

Whether we look on Elgin as a patron or a violator, he certainly saved these treasures of the Parthenon for posterity. He aroused great interest in Greek art. His action also initiated what has been called “the age of battleship archaeology.”

Modelling themselves on Elgin, alert, classically-minded consuls of all nations began to devote their considerable leisure time to archaeology. Finds were “purchased” from the Turks, and gunboats were run to lonely coastal towns to assist in their swift removal. Legality was ill-defined.





3.

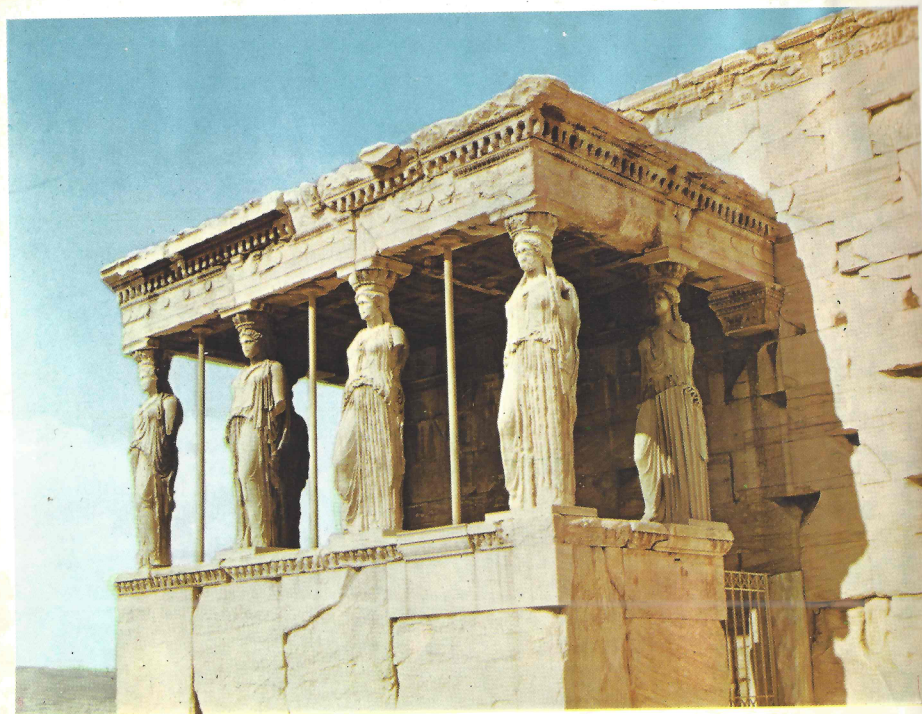
INSIDE THE PARTHENON

Left: The west end of the Parthenon seen through the columns of the Propylaea. *Above:* Inside the Parthenon, looking toward the east end.

Even in the middle of the Crimean War C. T. Newton had no difficulty in persuading the Admiralty to lend him ships and men to send home the 384 cases of treasures he found at Halicarnassus and Cnidus. It was no coincidence that Newton, an assistant in the antiquities department of the British Museum, had been transferred to the Foreign Office and given a roving commission in the Aegean a few years before.

Another art raid which enriched the British Museum was made by the Royal Navy on the Turkish coast at Lycia in 1842 when Sir Charles Fellows recovered the Nereid Monument. Probably the tomb of a prince in the 5th century B.C., it possessed friezes of almost unrivalled beauty and interest.

In 1873, finds on the Island of Samothrace were taken away by men-



4.

CARYATIDS ON THE ACROPOLIS

One of these female statues was taken by Lord Elgin and is now in the British Museum. The second girl on the left is a concrete replica.

of-war lent by Austria, and five years later at Dikeli a special landing stage was built by the Germans, and a road, 18 miles long, constructed so that the Altar of Zeus at Pergamon with its columns and fifty-seven high reliefs could be conveyed, piece by piece, to ships and then to Berlin.

Very soon after Lord Elgin's exploit four English and German explorers realized the commercial possibilities of classical art. They visited the island of Aegina, and with thirty workmen removed fragments of fifteen statues from a temple pediment in two weeks.

These were shipped to the Island of Zante where at a public sale they were acquired for the Munich Museum. The selling price was 150 times the cost. Next they swooped on the Temple of Apollo at Bassae in a remote valley of the Peloponnese.

Two months' work produced 90 feet of sculptured frieze. These heavy blocks were carried by mule over roadless mountains to the sea and taken to Zante. This time the British Ambassador (who had slipped up badly over the Aegina sale) bid \$60,000 and obtained them for the British Museum.

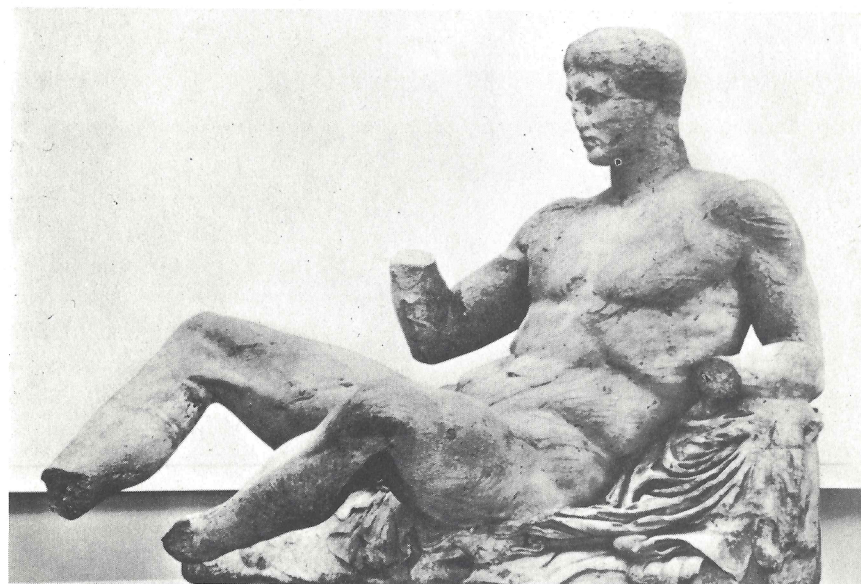
It may well be questioned if this kind of looting is really archaeology at all. It *is* as our great-grandfathers understood the word. For us its importance is that it paved the way for a more scientific approach.

Until 1875 the object of the excavator was simply to make money or to recover works of art for the museums of his own country. After that date the Greek Government forbade the export of all treasures. But by then the seeds of interest were not merely sown. They were flourishing.

No longer was appreciation of Greek art based on only drawings and engravings. Its beauty was on view in the Louvre and the British Museum, in Berlin, Vienna, and Munich. Nothing could stem the tide of enthusiasm. "Schools" of archaeological study in Athens, and started by various nations, were ready to embark on a new century of unselfish effort.

Below: This figure of Heracles was one of those removed from the east pediment of the Parthenon by Lord Elgin and is now in the British Museum.

Next page: A magnificent photograph of the Parthenon from the southwest.







WONDERS OF THE WORLD

OF THE SEVEN WONDERS of the ancient world only the Pyramids survive. But the remains of two others—the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus and the Temple at Ephesus—have been recovered. Like the friezes of the Parthenon, they opened 19th century eyes to the artistic marvels of the classical world. Their discovery was in the best traditions of romantic archaeology.

Halicarnassus (modern Budrum) is a small town on the southwestern coast of Turkey. Here in about 353 B.C. a huge marble tomb was built for the body of Mausolus, King of Caria, by his widow Queen Artemisia.

This tomb, which has given us the word “Mausoleum,” was destroyed by an earthquake in the 15th century, and our knowledge of its details is based on the description left by the Roman writer Pliny.

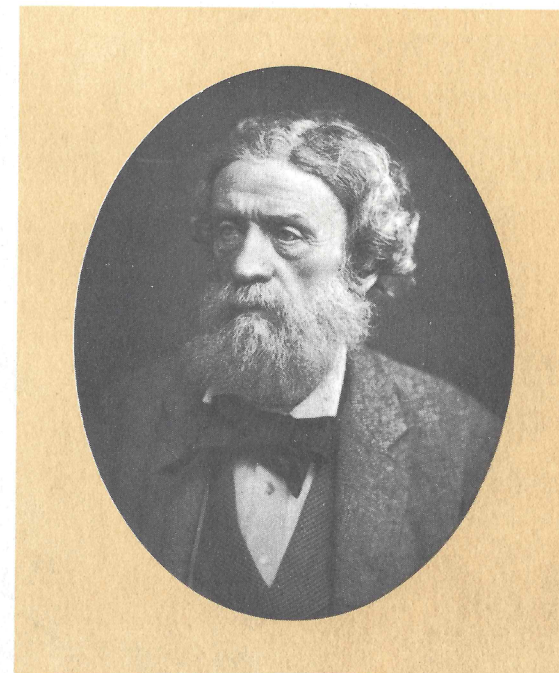
Three masters of Greek sculpture were said to have worked on it, but its proportions—it was said to be 130 feet high and 469 feet in circumference—its beauty, and even its actual site remained a haunting, unconfirmed legend until 1857 when C. T. Newton began his excavations.

Newton with his wandering commission in the Levant—part consular, part archaeological—had very little to go on. But fragments of Ionic columns and the irregularity of some ground in the middle of Budrum decided the matter for him. The area was covered with little Turkish houses and gardens. He started digging, and almost at once his hunch was confirmed. Twelve feet down he hit the foundations of the Mausoleum.

Excavations were held up while he had to haggle for one small house which he eventually bought for a trifling amount. Working from Pliny's measurements, Newton established the extent and ground plan of the building. Aided by the crew of a naval ship anchored nearby, he cleared the whole site of houses, garden walls, olive and fig trees.

Pliny also said that the great tomb had had a pyramid-shaped roof surmounted by a quadriga, a four-horsed chariot, and Newton was able to prove this to be true. He unearthed a horse so large that it needed eighty men to drag it to the docking area on a sledge. Even more exciting was the discovery of a figure, almost certainly of Mausolus himself, which

C. T. NEWTON





Left: A portion of the magnificent chariot group found by C. T. Newton during his digging at Halicarnassus. The original bronze bridle was intact.

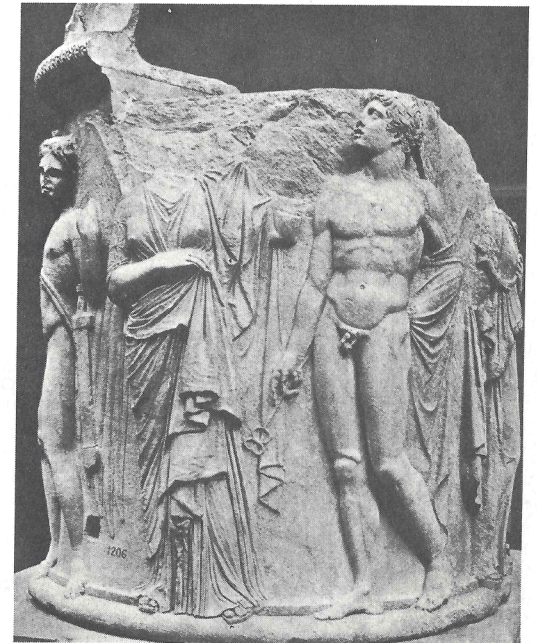
he assumed had stood in the chariot. This magnificent statue, nine feet, nine inches tall, was rebuilt from sixty-five separate fragments.

Fragments—one careful after another—were shipped back to England by Newton over a period of three years. They were the raw material for a giant jig-saw puzzle. Aided by data supplied by the ancient writers, craftsmen and artists set to work.

We cannot be sure of every detail. But it has been possible to “reconstruct” with fair certainty this lost Wonder of the World. Newton enabled us to see again the gleaming edifice of columns, friezes, and decorative statuary—the shrine which 2,500 years ago, a sorrowing queen planned as a perpetual monument to her dead husband.

Ten years later, another British archaeologist spent far longer on a brilliant piece of detective work that revealed the long-lost Temple of Diana at Ephesus.

J. T. Wood unearthed this huge circular column drum at Ephesus. There were probably 100 columns, each decorated with superb sculpture. The headless female figure is Alcestis, about to be escorted to the upper world by Hermes (*right*). Thanatos—Death—is the winged figure (*left*).



The temple, nearly twice the size of the Parthenon, and probably the largest Greek temple ever built, had attracted people from all over the known world to pay homage to the miraculous goddess Artemis—or, as the Romans called her, Diana. To her votaries she ranked higher than Zeus, and her cult made Ephesus the most powerful city in Asia.

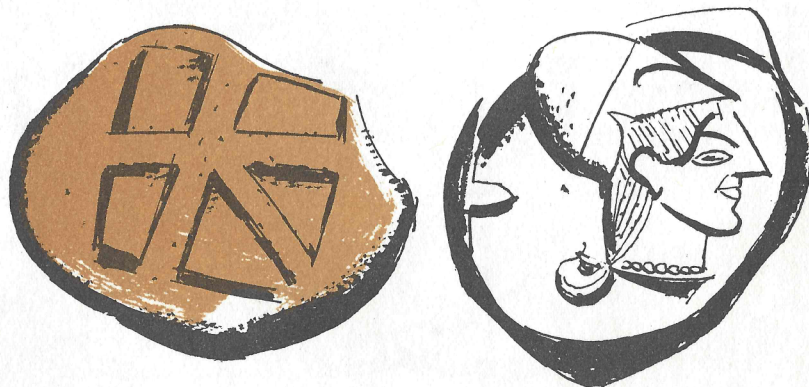
About 600 B.C. the Ephesians began work on the shrine, and Pliny says that it took 220 years to build. But so completely had this magnificent temple disappeared that Wood found many who believed it was a mere legend.

Digging in the great auditorium at Ephesus, he found an inscription which told of the ancient city gates through which magnificent processions passed to and from the temple on the festival of the goddess. Here was the vital clue.

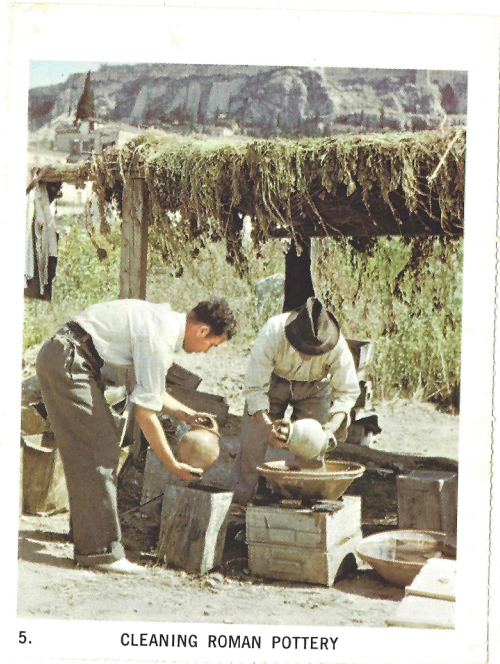
Wood excavated and found these gateways. Then, by a series of trial holes, he plotted the course of the road. He followed it yard by yard for nearly a mile. He had been working six years at Ephesus before, on the last day of 1869, his persistence was rewarded. He sank a shaft, and 20 feet below the marshy surface, his spade struck a marble pavement. He had found the Temple of Diana.

That was only the start. Wood spent five more years at Ephesus. He completely cleared the temple site and unearthed some of the superbly carved bases of the hundred columns—each 55 feet high—that were the great feature of the building.

Today Ephesus, like Halicarnassus, can show almost nothing of its famous Wonder. To see what exists you must go not to Asia Minor but to London. But the period of antiquity-grabbing was nearing its end. A new age of archaeology was to begin.



Under a rush sunshade, pottery of the Early Roman period found in a well in the Agora at Athens, is washed and cleaned. The Acropolis is in the background.



5. CLEANING ROMAN POTTERY

THE AGORA

UNDER THE SHADOW of the Acropolis in Athens lies an open area of twenty-five acres. It is the Agora, or ancient market place, the artistic, intellectual, and administrative hub of Athens from 500 B.C. to A.D. 267.

Walking through the ruins today among myrtle and laurel bushes, you can see the foundations of the Tholos, the circular building where Pericles conferred with his Council of State. Here are the remains of temples, shops, and the great processional route to the Parthenon.

Ruins of an arena are a reminder of Roman Occupation; wandering on, you come to the steps of the stoa or public building where Socrates may have taught. Willows, poplars, and plane trees now grow in the Agora—just as they did in the 5th century B.C.

Yet only twenty-five years ago you could see nothing of all this. Nearly the whole area lay under earth and debris ten to forty feet deep. It was covered by a warren of 350 houses, the homes of about 5,000 people.



Left: Clearing the Panathenaic Way. The paving blocks in the foreground, heavily worn by wheeled traffic, lie to the south of the Stoa of Attalos.

The recovery of the Agora is the most spectacular and costly archaeological undertaking of modern times. It has been carried out since 1931 by the American School of Classical Studies with the financial backing of John D. Rockefeller Jr. and Marshall Aid.

Something like 300,000 tons of earth had to be removed to reveal the extent of the Agora and the foundations of buildings which were destroyed by the barbarian, Gothic invaders from the north, in A.D. 267.

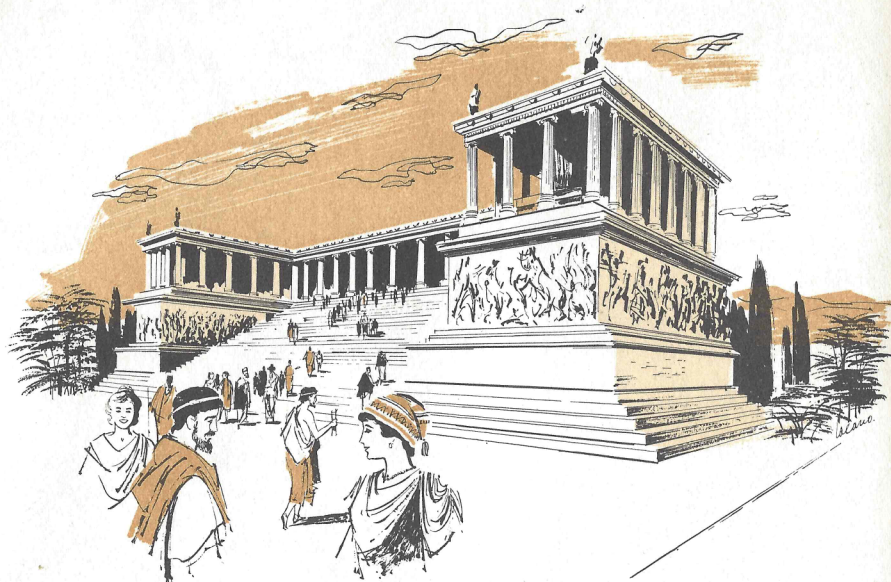
From surviving fragments of several types of columns and their capitals, part of the marble steps, and many pieces of the façade, it has been possible to reconstruct the Stoa of Attalos on its original foundations. Attalos II, King of Pergamon, gave the original building to the city and, standing in the shade of its double colonnade, the Athenian crowds watched the festival day procession to the Acropolis. That was in the

Below: The Agora in 1931 before excavations began. Some 350 houses had to be demolished. The Parthenon can be seen at the far right.

Next page: The Agora as it looks today with the Stoa of Attalos.







The great altar of Pergamum.

second century B.C.; today, a facsimile of it (built at a cost of over a million dollars), serves as a museum and a store for more than 65,000 objects recovered during the Agora excavations.

There is a rule in archaeology that all fragments must be preserved however insignificant they may appear. The importance of this has recently been seen here.

Overlooking the site on the west is the beautiful little Temple of Hephaistos and Athena, built in about 450 B.C. Its perfection is marred by the absence of sculpture on one of the triangular pediments. Marks on the ledge of the pediment indicate the "ground plan" of the missing sculpture.

During excavations near the temple since 1945 various pieces of marble statuary came to light. Among them were a reclining male figure and the torso of the goddess Athene. Meticulously pieced together, they have made it possible to reconstruct the whole composition.

Working with these fragmentary clues, the American archaeologists have been able to affirm that the central figure of the pediment was the seated Zeus with the deities Athenae and Heracles supporting him on left and right, and, sloping away into the angles of the pediment, were two chariots and reclining figures.

Nearly 7,000 inscriptions on marble slabs have been found, and among the more significant is one that reveals how zealously the Greeks guarded their democracy. It was a decree issued after the defeat of the Athenians by Philip of Macedon in 336 B.C. The fate of any unscrupulous person who took advantage of the situation to set himself up as a tyrant was execution.

In the southwest corner of the Agora a shoemaker's shop has been identified by quantities of iron nails, and the name "Simon" scratched on a cup suggests that it belonged to the actual cobbler patronized by Socrates.

"All fragments must be preserved." And in excavation workrooms such as this, washed pottery is spread out for study and piecing together. Notice that each section is separated from its neighbor to indicate its source.



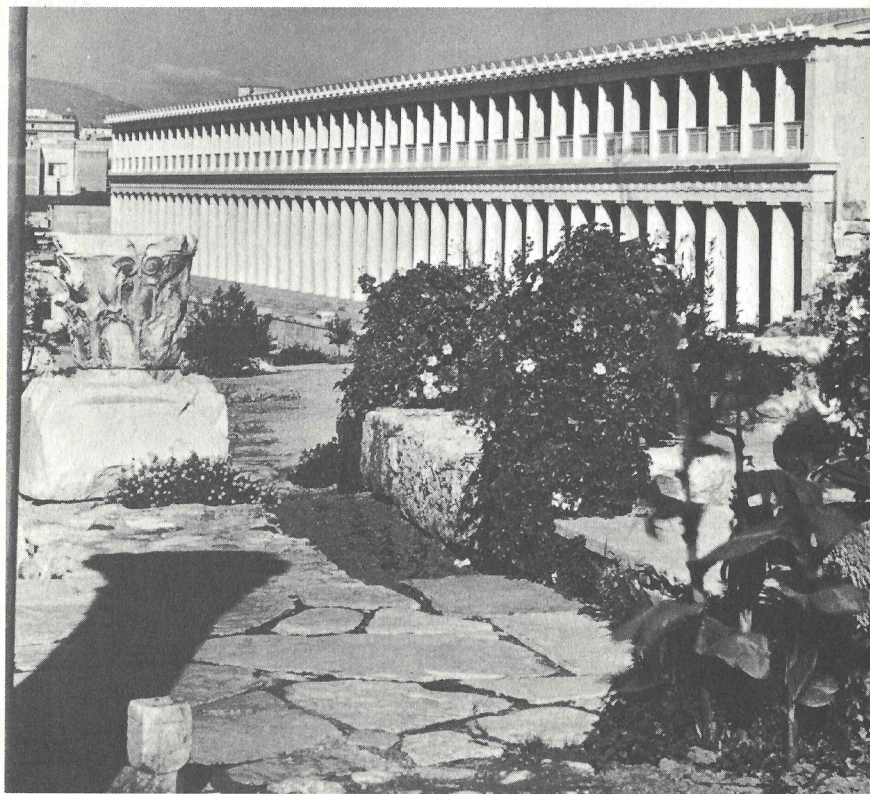
Among finds that strike a modern chord are a water clock used to measure the length of speeches in the law courts, and the bronze ballots used by juries to record their verdicts.

In a well behind the stoa hundreds of vases and oil flasks have been found. Although nearly 2,500 years old, they seem "modern" in style, and their decoration is informal; one cup shows a boy lifting a rabbit by its ears.

It is thought that all this smashed crockery in the well probably came from a nearby potter's shop as part of a tidying-up job that followed the Persian attack in 480 B.C.

Below: The magnificent facsimile Stoa of Attalos in the Agora is floodlighted at night. It is a museum and storehouse for Agora objects.

Right: Inside the Stoa giant columns cast long shadows on the floor.





6.

THE STADIUM AT OLYMPIA

Excavation of the Stadium at Olympia has recently been completed. The people are standing at the starting line for the races; the athletes' entrance tunnel is in the foreground. No women were allowed to attend.

TWO SANCTUARIES

ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE manifestations of Greek civilization was the Olympic Games. Every fourth year for more than a thousand years (776 B.C. to A.D. 393) athletes representing the city states of the Greek world converged on Olympia, nestling in the beautiful valley of the winding Alpheus.

They came to the stadium and the sacred sanctuary among the pine trees not only from the mainland, but from colonies as distant as Marseilles and Sicily.

However bloody might be the internal wars between states, there was a month's armistice for the Games. The same ideal theoretically inspires the world Olympics of today.

Science Bulletin

Prepared by SCIENCE SERVICE

SAXON BUCKLE FOUND

The discovery of a three-inch bronze buckle in a Saxon grave near Deal, Kent, England, is offering clues to the identity of a huge mysterious statue whose origin is unknown.

The buckle, found when 140 Saxon graves were recently excavated, has as its main feature a quaint little figure with a horned helmet and two long spears in his hands. This figure is similar to a 240-foot ancient statue called the Long Man, carved on Windover Hill near Eastbourne, Sussex, believes Dr. C. F. C. Hawkes of Oxford University.

Both figures are naked, have feet turned to the right and seem to be performing some sort of ritual step, pointed out Dr. Hawkes, who believes that the figure on the buckle depicts the Germanic war god Woden, worshipped in Scandinavia as Odin.

The Long Man, said Dr. Hawkes, is the buckle man disarmed, deliberately shorn of the pagan god's equipment, helmet, belt and spearheads. The pagan god may have been shorn by St. Wilfrid, the apostle of

Sussex whose mission lasted from 681 to 686 A.D., at a time when Sussex was strongly heathen.

EARLY MEXICAN WRITINGS

An Indian civilization discovered writing and accounting as early as 500 B.C., archaeologists have recently concluded from excavations north of Mexico City.

The symbols and letters and numbers on pyramids dating back to the third and fourth centuries B.C. indicate that the Indians developed the concept and practice of writing in about the fifth or sixth centuries B.C., believes Dr. Donald C. Brockington of San Diego State College, San Diego, California.

The discoveries support anthropologists' theories that the first men to settle in America were big game hunters from Siberia who walked 1000 miles across the frozen Bering Straits from Siberia.

Dr. Brockington advanced this theory from the latest archaeological discoveries in Mesoamerica, a region that stretches from about 100 miles north of Mexico City southward to the Nicaragua Border.

Between 50,000 and 10,000 years ago, small bands of men called paleoindians entered America and migrated down the western regions into Mesoamerica. They were big game hunters and preyed on bison and mammoths, which were large elephant beasts, now extinct.

By 8000 to 6000 B.C. the climate of Mesoamerica changed and the paleoindians had to rely on wild vegetation for food. Chili peppers, squash, corn and beans became their major sources of food. The changing climate brought about technological advances in agriculture, as well as in pottery-making. The paleoindians began to build homes and live in villages, and by 3000 B.C. they were building pyramids.

The paleoindian population flourished in Mexico's Tehuacan Valley, north of Mexico City. It had reached 125,000 persons by 1519 when the Spaniards conquered the Aztecs, the last great Mesoamerican civilization.

20,000-YEAR-OLD CAVE PAINTING

Some of the finest rock paintings of the paleolithic era in Europe have been discovered in a cave near Escoural, about 60 miles southeast of Lisbon. They were found by workmen blasting a quarry.

The discovery has been inspected by Abbe A. Glory, one of Europe's leading archaeologists, who declared, "They are authentic paleolithic paintings and are between 15,000 and 20,000 years old, probably nearer the 20,000 mark." The paintings include a witch doctor and various animals.

Abbe Glory's assessment makes the sketches about 7,000 years older than the famous bulls in the cave at Altamira, in Spain. Abbe Glory and Dr. Maxime Vaultier, vice president of the Portuguese Archaeological Association, estimated the age by the shape of the horns of the cattle in the pictures.

Dr. Vaultier said, "The Escoural cave was used as a pagan shrine in the paleolithic period. Thousands of years later, in the neolithic era, it was turned into a sort of catacombs or cemetery."

Abbe Glory said, "This is the first cave with wall paintings dating back to about 20,000 years ago to be discovered in Portugal. It can be included in the Franco-Catabric line and it shows that Portugal was the westernmost point attained by European prehistoric art."

The first caves were discovered at the end of 1963. They are now being explored by Dr. Farinha dos Santos, University of Lisbon, who holds a grant from the Gulbenkian Foundation.

STONE AGE TOOLS

Carefully chipped and fluted stone tools made by prehistoric Folsom Man 10,000 years ago were uncovered in New Mexico when roadbuilders sheared away part of a steep hillside and exposed Ice Age layers near Albuquerque.

Workmanship of Folsom Man is distinctive, according to

Dr. Frank C. Hibben, anthropologist of the University of New Mexico, conducting excavations on the site on behalf of the university and the American Museum of Natural History. Actual discovery of the site was made by graduate student, Gerald Dawson.

Usually made from flint or siliceous stone, the points are about two inches long, thin and leaf shaped. From each side of the points, Folsom Man carefully removed a longitudinal flake, thus producing distinctive fluted points with grooves or channels.

The name Folsom Man is taken from a site near Folsom, New Mexico, where first evidences of prehistoric human life were found less than 40 years ago. Until that time, scientists generally believed that man first came to the Western Hemisphere probably from Asia about four or five thousand years ago.

In all the years of searching, scientists have found tools and weapons of the ancient people, but no human bones or signs of their habitation.

* * *

In animals, looking past (instead of directly at) one another is a reducer and even nullifier of tension and is usually originated by the lesser animal, further appeasement being expressed by small fast steps.

* * *

Black calcite, a common mineral heretofore considered worthless, recently has been found to often contain rich quantities of silver invisible to the naked eye.

* * *

There has been no evidence to indicate that continuous consumption of water containing about one part per million of fluorine for long periods is harmful to health.

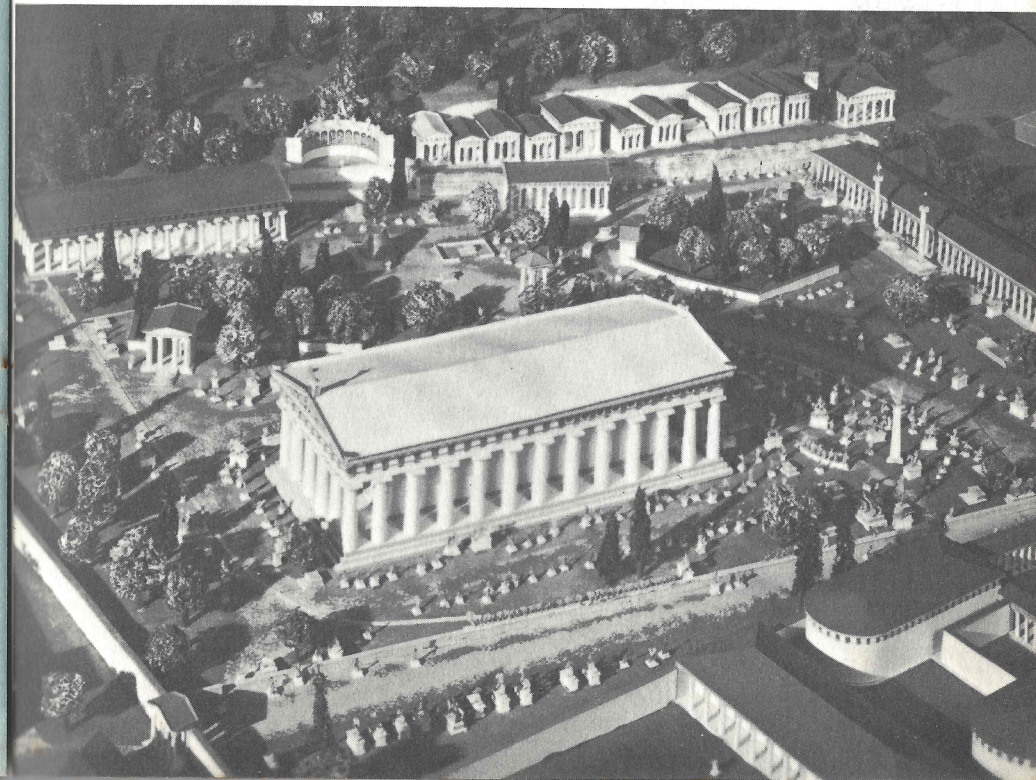
The naked athletes matched their skill in running, jumping, wrestling, and the throwing of spear and discus. The only prizes were garlands of wild olives, and no women were permitted to attend.

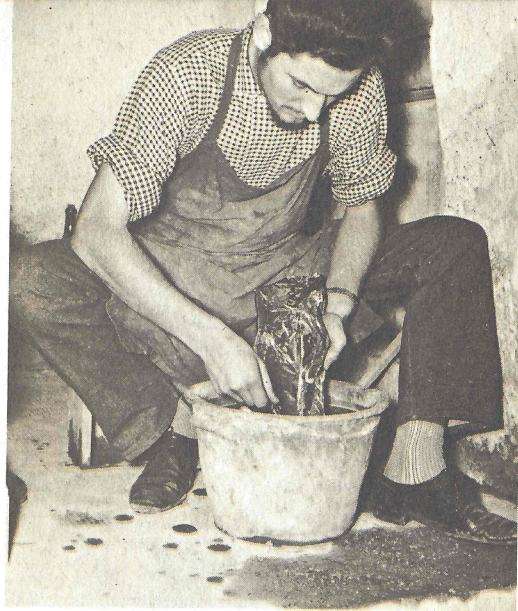
As a climax to the work they have been doing at Olympia for eighty-five years, German archaeologists in 1961 completed excavations of the stadium where the Games took place. Mountains of earth were removed to reveal the slopes of the stadium which once held 40,000 spectators as it used to be in the 4th century B.C.

It is now clear that, unlike many Greek stadiums, there were no permanent seats for spectators—only for the officials—curious in view of Olympia's importance. The stone sills in the ground that marked the start of the races have been revealed, and also the tunnel through which the competitors entered the stadium from the Altis, the sacred grove dedicated to Zeus.

Clearing of the stadium is only part of the tremendous work undertaken by the Germans since 1875. An earthquake and inundation by

Archaeology has made possible this model of Olympia showing the sacred Altis. The central building is the Temple of Zeus. The Stadium for games is just visible in the upper right hand corner of the picture.





Left: A specialist in the German team of archaeologists at Olympia cleans an ornament found there during excavations.

Right: Dr. Emil Kunze (smoking a pipe) of the German team, supervises the excavations at the Stadium.

Pages 36-37: The Stadium in its final stages of restoration, just before the German Archaeological School in Athens turned it over to the Greek Olympic Games Committee.

the river had left temples, shrines, treasuries, stoas, and works of art in ruins, and the ruins almost entirely hidden under silt and clay. Only by systematic excavation and reconstruction was Olympia recovered.

No complete building now stands, but foundations and ordered ruins make it possible to reconstruct in the imagination the setting for the greatest of Greek festivals.

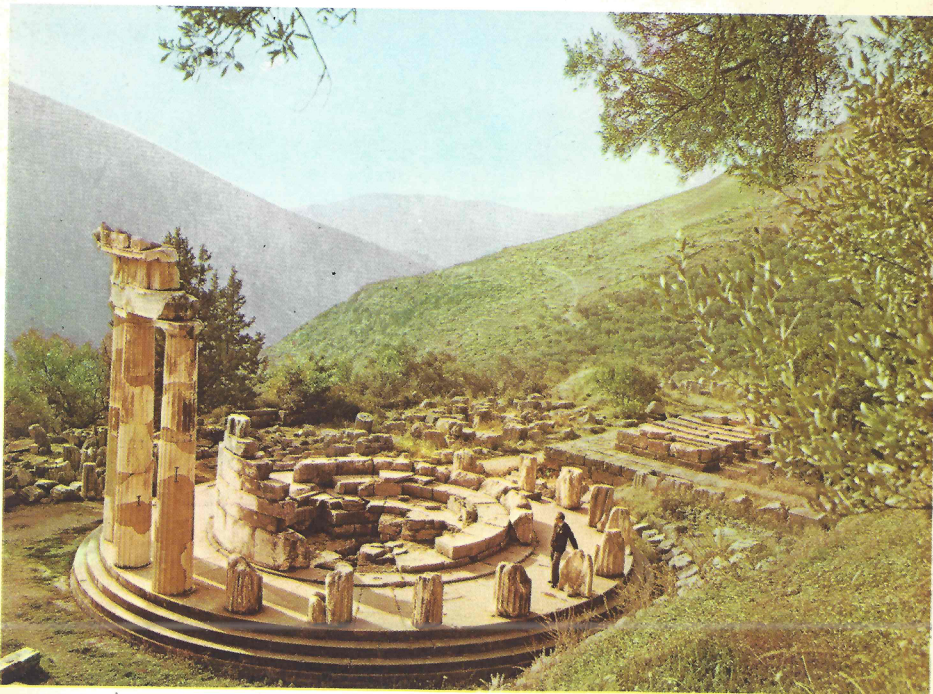
Eight years ago Dr. E. Kunze, director of the German excavations, made the most exciting of recent discoveries. Digging in the area known to have been the workshop of Phidias, he found the clay moulds which the great Athenian sculptor used for the goldwork of his masterpiece—the long-lost, colossal statue of Zeus. Another direct link with Phidias, whose major work was sculpture for the Parthenon, came at the same time with the discovery of a black-glazed cup with his name on it.

The Germans at Olympia: the French at Delphi. As early as 1838 French archaeologists began the work that has continued ever since at the other great religious sanctuary of the Greeks.

To the ancient Greeks, Delphi, built on a hillside in wild mountain country, is about 150 miles northwest of Athens and was the very middle of the world. It was the shrine of the famous Oracle which from the 9th century B.C. was consulted about everything from war to the most trivial domestic problems.







7.

MARBLE ROTUNDA AT DELPHI

These two views (*above* and *right*) of the marble rotunda at Delphi are little understood. The building's exact purpose remains a mystery. Sacrifices may have been offered here before consulting the Oracle. A priestess acted as intermediary between the inquirer and the Oracle.

As with the Agora in Athens, excavation was impeded by modern houses that had been built over the ancient site. Before serious work could start in 1892, the entire village of Castri—it consisted of about a thousand houses—had to be pulled down and rebuilt half a mile away:

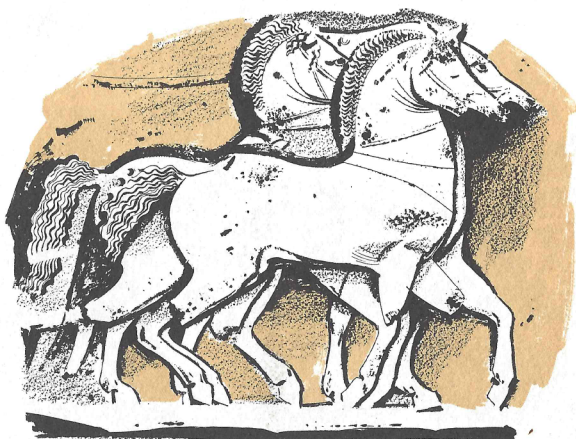
The resentful villagers rioted in protest, and stole the tools of the French invaders; but their sacrifice paid archaeological dividends. Almost at once Theophile Homolle, leader of the expedition, uncovered a building of great importance. On such occasions archaeologists tend to indulge in cables. To Paris Homolle sent the message: "We have found the Treasury of the Athenians."





This view of Delphi shows the Treasury of the Athenians on the Sacred Way leading up to the Temple of Apollo, which was discovered by the French.

A small Doric building of 485 B.C., the Treasury was erected by the people of Athens on the Sacred Way to the Temple of Apollo. Paid for out of the proceeds from the victory of Marathon, it was their thanks-offering to the Oracle. On the walls was inscribed a hymn to the god, the musical notation of which provided the first fairly definite idea of how ancient Greek music really sounded.



These archaic lions stand among the ruins of ancient Delos. This island of the Cyclades was of great commercial and political importance in antiquity.



8. ANCIENT LIONS

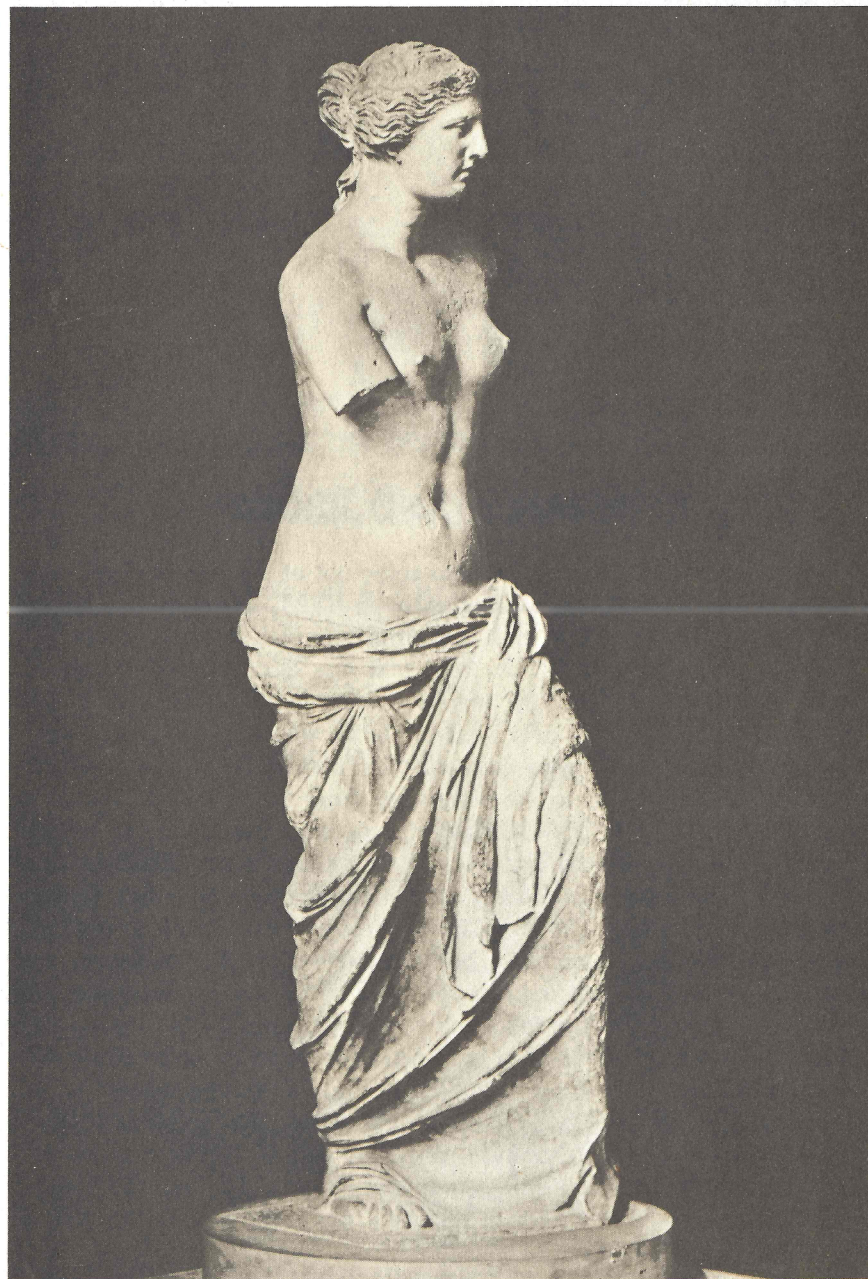
IN MARBLE AND BRONZE

THE MOST FAMOUS STATUE ever to come out of the soil of Greece was found on the Island of Melos early in 1820. Many people regard the Venus de Milo as the most beautiful survival from antiquity.

According to the most reliable report, it was discovered by a peasant named Yorgos who found the statue in two halves buried in a little ruined chapel near the town of Castro. He showed it to a young French ensign, Olivier Voutier, who informed his consul on Melos and then sailed for Constantinople to get permission from the French Ambassador to purchase it; but, in his absence, Yorgos sold the Venus to a local Turkish priest who wanted to present it to an important official in Constantinople. The statue was already aboard the Turkish ship when Voutier, accompanied by an attaché from the embassy, arrived back in Melos.

There was a furious altercation, but it ended with the French purchase of the statue for 8,000 francs and its shipment to France where it was presented to Louis XVIII. The following year it was displayed at the Louvre.

The age of the Venus de Milo has been the subject of much discussion. Until recently the perfection of the sculpture has suggested the 4th or 5th centuries B.C. and the great sculptor, Praxitiles, was suggested as its creator. Modern opinion, however, does not date it earlier than the 1st century B.C. There have also been many attempts to find the missing arms. The most recent, American financed, was last summer, but like all the others ended in failure.



The Louvre captured another masterpiece from a Greek island when a French vice-consul was excavating on the remote, rocky Island of Samothrace in 1835. He found a statue in two hundred pieces. The pieces, taken to Paris, were assembled to produce the Winged Victory.

For eighty years archaeologists of different nations searched for the missing head, arms and hand of this statue, and in 1939 New York University started methodical excavation in conjunction with M. Jean Charbonneaux of the Louvre.

Pottery found in the foundation ditches of the Winged Victory reveal that it was erected about 200 B.C. and not, as previously thought, in 305 B.C. to celebrate the victory at Salamis. In July, 1950, Dr. Karl Lehmann, American director of the Samothrace excavations, found part of the right hand, which had slid under a rock when the statue was overturned by earthquake or war, with the fingers broken off. The ring finger, however, was found nearby, and enough of the hand survived to show that the figure had once held a light metal wreath. Until then it had been assumed she carried a trumpet.

Of all the statues found on the Greek mainland probably the most famous is that of Hermes, the messenger of Zeus, discovered at Olympia.

Left: The most famous statue in the world—Venus de Milo. The name indicates merely that the statue was found on the Island of Melos.

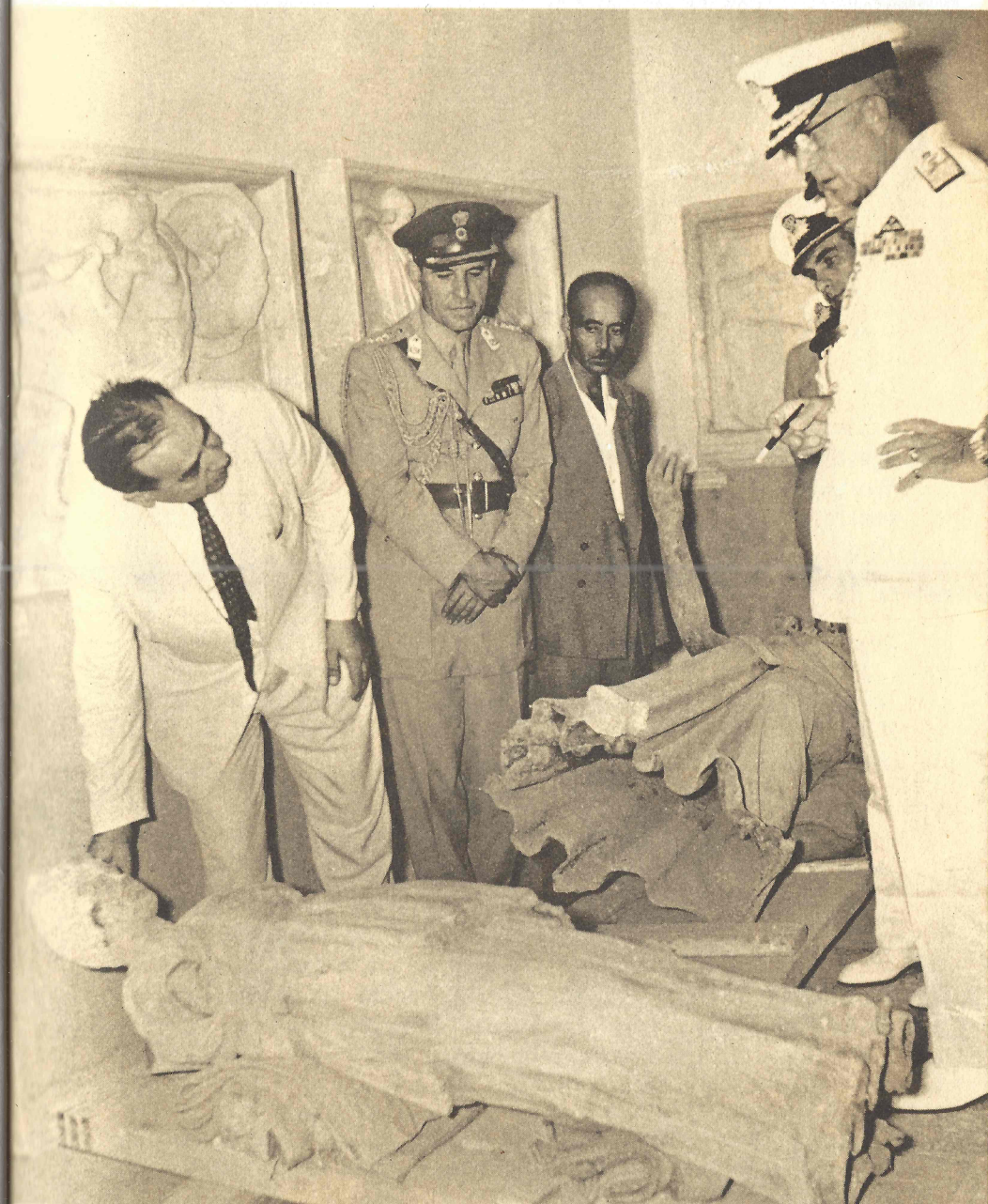
Below: Lifting the statue of Athena, discovered by accident in a trench in a road at Piraeus in 1959. It was one of five bronzes.





Left: The Winged Victory found at Samothrace in 1835, in 200 pieces. It was pieced together in Paris and more missing parts were found in 1950. She is still headless.

Right: The late King Paul of Greece, on the extreme right, examining one of five bronze statues discovered by workmen digging a roadside ditch at Piraeus.

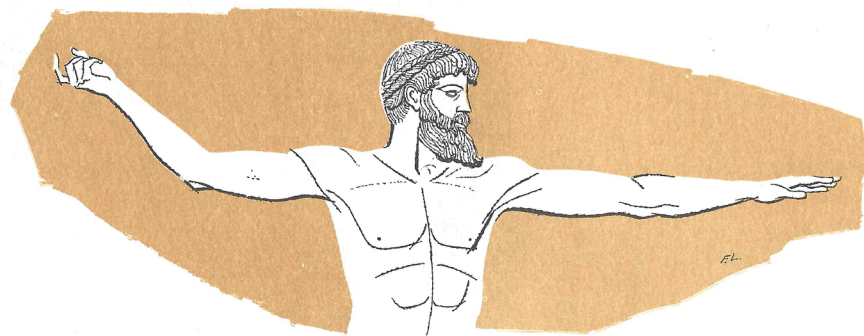


Considered by some to be the only surviving original work of Praxitiles, it stands today in the museum under a specially reinforced steel roof and on a bed of sand to protect it from earthquake.

Pausanias, who visited Olympia in the 2nd century A.D., described the statue's position in the Temple of Hera. Digging 1,700 years later, German archaeologists under Ernst Curtius found how accurate Pausanias had been. Exactly where he had said, they came across the beautiful marble figure of the youth buried face downwards in clay and among broken tiles.

Perhaps the finest bronze statue ever found was brought up by fishermen in their nets in 1928; belonging to the 5th century B.C., the Zeus of Artemision, eight feet high, and in a marvellous state of preservation, was dragged to the surface from 25 fathoms of water just off Cape Artemision.

The bronze Zeus, who stands poised ready to hurl a thunderbolt, may have been looted from the sanctuary of Delphi in the time of the Emperor Hadrian. It was probably sunk in a wreck on its way to Constantinople (where it would have been destined to decorate the Roman hippodrome).



There seems to be no end to the riches of Greek soil. Only six years ago there was a sensational discovery at Piraeus, the Port of Athens. Workmen digging a sewer ditch three feet below the surface of the road unearthed five bronze statues; one of them, a 6th century B.C. statue of Apollo, is the oldest life-size bronze ever found.

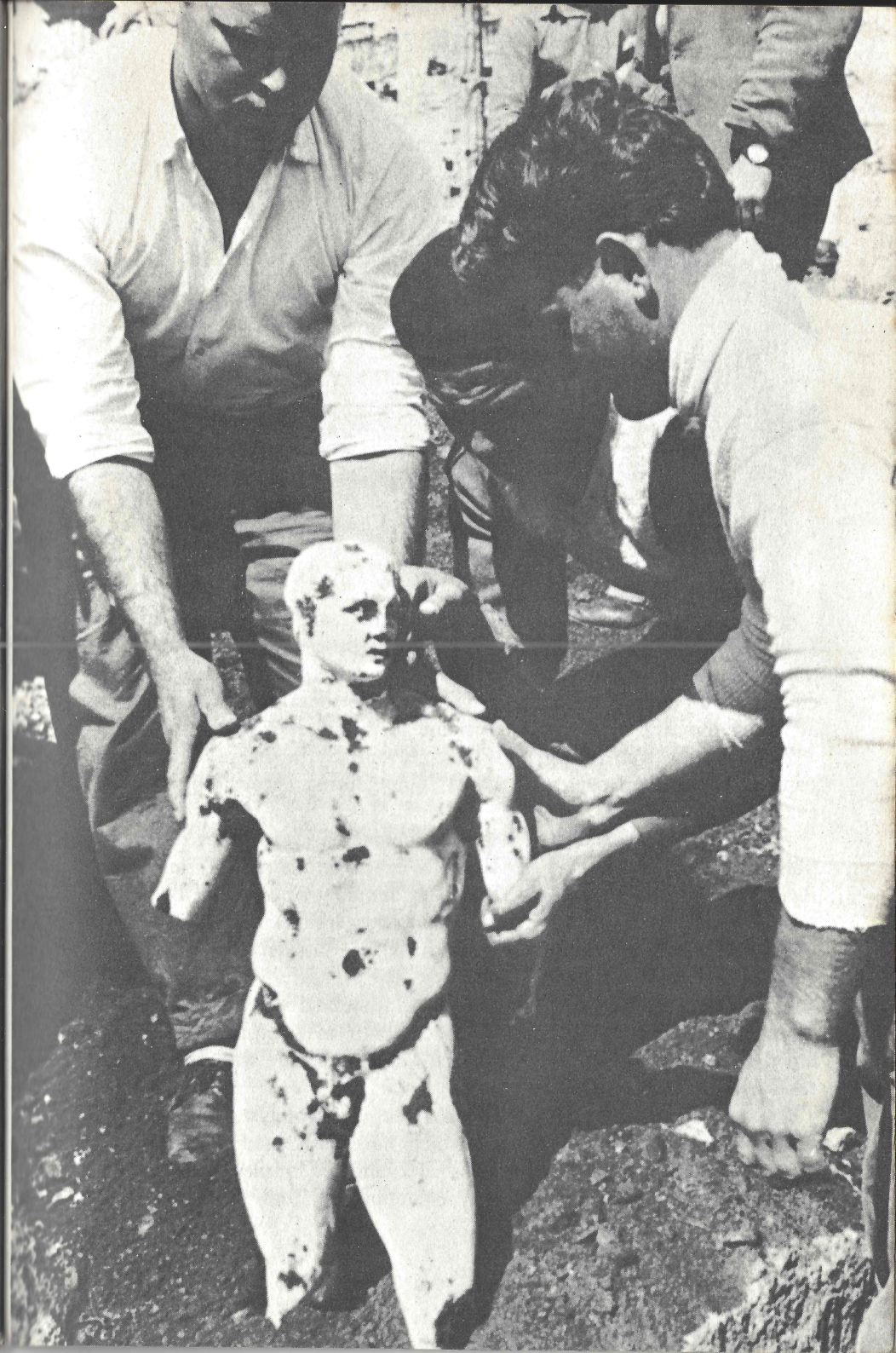
Like the Artemision Zeus, they were probably destined to go abroad. But before they could be shipped to Italy, it is thought, their storehouse was burned down during Sulla's raid on Piraeus in 86 B.C.

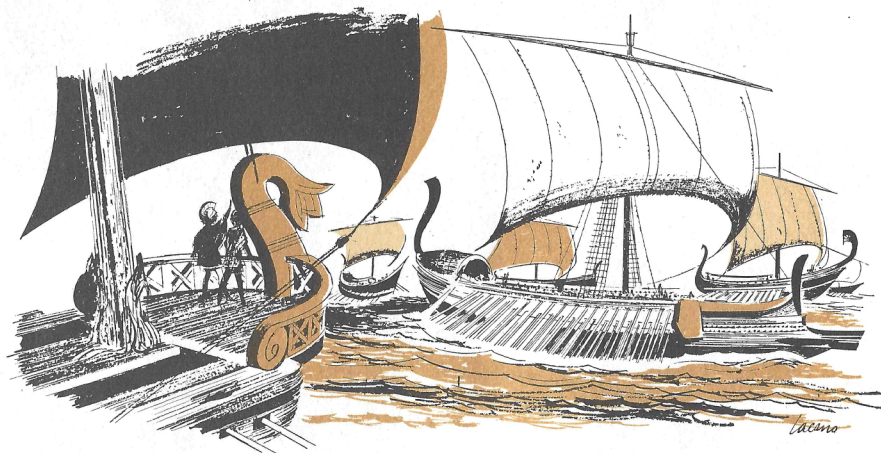
In parts the statues were extremely fragile, and they had to be strengthened by reed splints over which was poured liquid wax before it was safe to remove them from the grave in which they had lain for over 2,000 years.

HONEY FOR PERSEPHONE

AS COLONISTS, BUT NOT as empire builders like their Roman successors, the Greeks had footholds all over the Mediterranean. One of the largest and most perfect Greek temples is not in Greece at all, but at Agrigentum in Sicily. Practically every Aegean Island shows traces of Hellenic civilization, and the west coast of Turkey has been a rich hunting ground for the classical archaeologist.

Right: A white marble statue of the Greek god Apollo unearthed at Paestum, near Salerno. The statue originally adorned one of the temples uncovered by Italian archaeologists in 1955.





Greek navigators sailed as far as Spain in search of trade. Ampurias (originally Emporion, the Greek for trading post, hence our word "emporium"), north of Barcelona, has revealed statues, inscriptions, and cemeteries of the early settlers. Similar places were founded at Marseilles and all along the Riviera. The Greek name for St. Tropez was Athenopolis.

The same is true of Egypt, Palestine, and Syria where Greek coins (and locally minted copies of them) found during excavations show the extent of Greek trade.

In the last few years there has been an increasing number of excavations in Magna Graecia as the Romans called Southern Italy and Sicily. Among them is the campaign, conducted annually since 1955, by Princeton University at Serra Orlando (ancient Morgantina) in Sicily. This has uncovered the best preserved Hellenistic Agora outside Asia Minor—surrounded by flights of steps 180 feet wide.

The earliest Greek colony on the Italian mainland was at Cumae within 70 miles of Rome, and a little further south at Paestum near Salerno are the superb remains of a Greek city and sanctuary with a fine Doric temple built about 500 B.C.

Paestum has proved a rich site for the archaeologist. Its survival is largely due to deadly mosquitoes which have prevented the usual vandalism. Also the ancient city walls and temples miraculously survived the fighting that followed the Salerno landing in 1943.

These tall columns used to support the roof of the Temple of Olympian Zeus in Athens. Work is in progress to the south of this temple.



9.

REMAINS OF TEMPLE

One winter's morning ten years ago Professor Sestieri, the provincial Superintendent of Antiquities, was disturbed in the museum at Paestum by an excited keeper who rushed in to say that a bulldozer working on a new road had fallen into a tomb.

This led to the discovery of not one tomb, but twenty; among them were the graves of children. Buried with them had been the toys treasured in their brief lifetime twenty-four centuries ago. In a boy's grave was a miniature bronze breastplate, and also the figurine of a dog; in a girl's were a bronze mirror and terracotta dolls with jointed limbs so that they could sit or stand; and in a baby's there was a rattle—a hollow ball of terracotta containing a loose pebble.

Even more exciting was the discovery of an underground shrine that had been untouched for about 2,500 years. Professor Sestieri climbed down a ladder through a hole in the roof. He found himself in a small rectangular building the size and shape of an amateur gardener's greenhouse.

In the darkness his flashlight picked out eight exquisite bronze vases. Two of them were found to be filled with pure honey—honey harvested by bees in the time of Pericles and Aeschylus!



10.

GREEK AUDITORIUM

Although a performer of today, accustomed to using a microphone might be surprised at the challenge of working here, the acoustics are in fact so excellent that an actor's lines could easily be heard in the last row.

There was the remains of a bed in the shrine, but no body. For whom, then, was it built? Too elaborate for a small shrine to a minor god, it was clearly for a divinity, and to judge from the vessels probably a goddess. But which goddess? The Greeks believed that their immortal deities lived on Mount Olympus.

The one exception was Persephone. The Italian archaeologist decided he was probably standing in the earthly sanctuary of the goddess who was believed to die and descend to Hades every winter and return to earth, reborn with the spring. As she would be tired after her journey from the underworld, the builders of the shrine had thoughtfully provided a bed. She would also be hungry. At Paestum there was honey waiting for Persephone.

THE ROMAN HEEL

LIKE SCIENTISTS IN NEARLY ALL fields of research, archaeologists regard their findings as international. They do not nurse secrets; they share them. For convenience, however, the actual work of excavation in Greece is divided on a roughly national basis.

For work on any particular site, precedence goes to the foreign archaeologist whose country originally initiated work there. When granting permits the Greeks are careful to foster this tradition of continuity.

The French have always concentrated on Delphi and Delos; the Germans on Olympia; the British on Knossos in Crete and, since 1920, Mycenae; Corinth has long been the main American excavation interest.

For sixty-five years the American School of Classical Studies has been engaged at Corinth on one of the most interesting of projects: the excavation of two overlapping civilizations—Greek and Roman.

In the 3rd century B.C. Corinth was the largest and wealthiest city in Greece. It outshone even Athens. But when Rome started her "liberation"

This Fountain House of Pirene at Corinth is Roman rather than Greek. The Romans first destroyed Greek Corinth and then rebuilt it. Legend says the winged horse, Pegasus, was drinking here when caught and tamed by Bellerophon.





Left: The end of the Lechaion Road leading from the port on the Gulf of Corinth to the market place. It was once lined with rows of shops.

Right: Standing on what is now a grass-covered hill, the ruined Temple of Apollo at Corinth still dominates the Gulf.



11.

RUINS OF CORINTH

of Greece, the city commanding the narrow isthmus joining central Greece with the Peloponnese was mercilessly destroyed in 146 B.C.

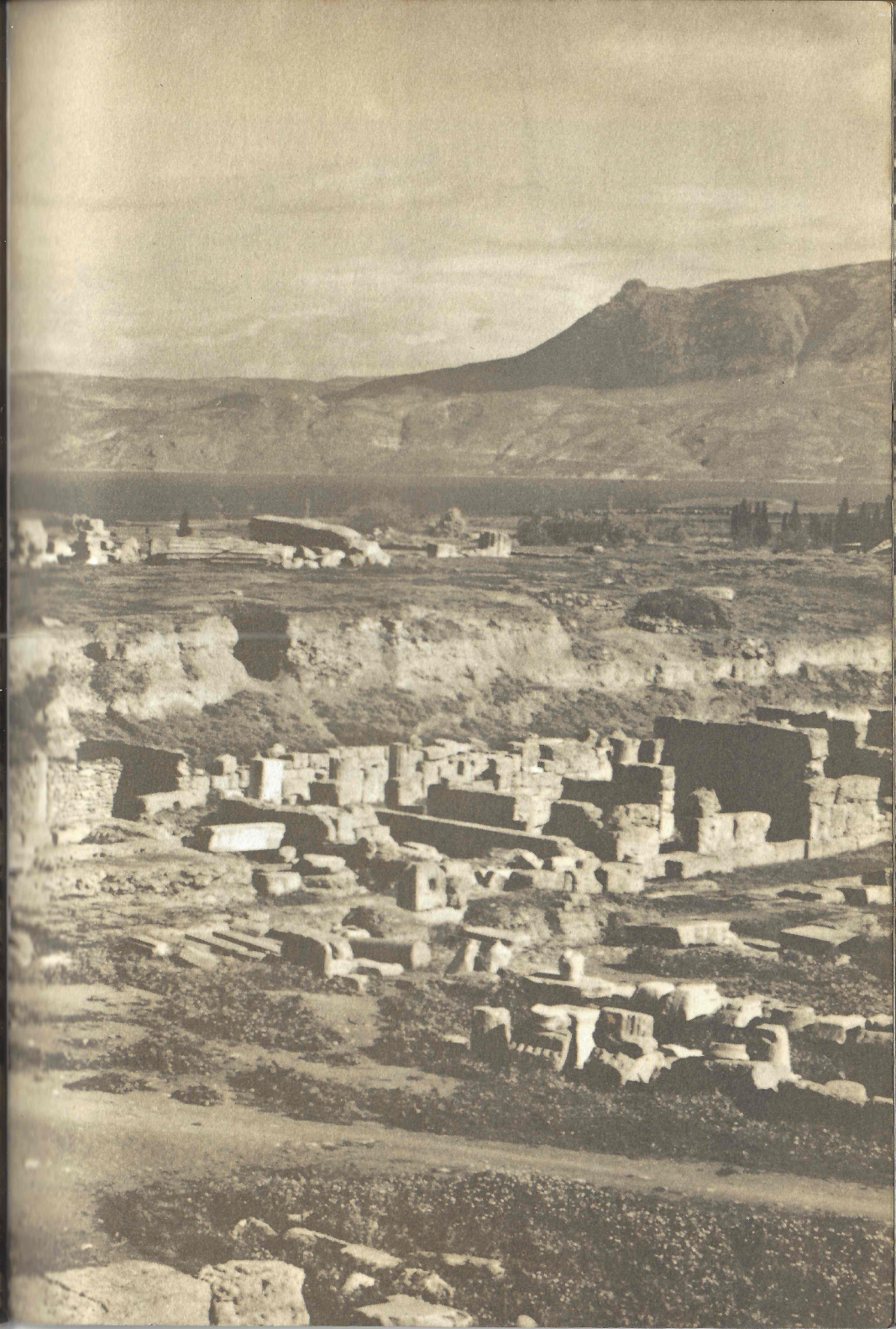
Nearly 200 years later, Julius Caesar ordered that Corinth should be rebuilt, and it is this second city—later brought to a state of ruin by Goths and Normans, and the effects of earthquake—that the Americans are excavating.

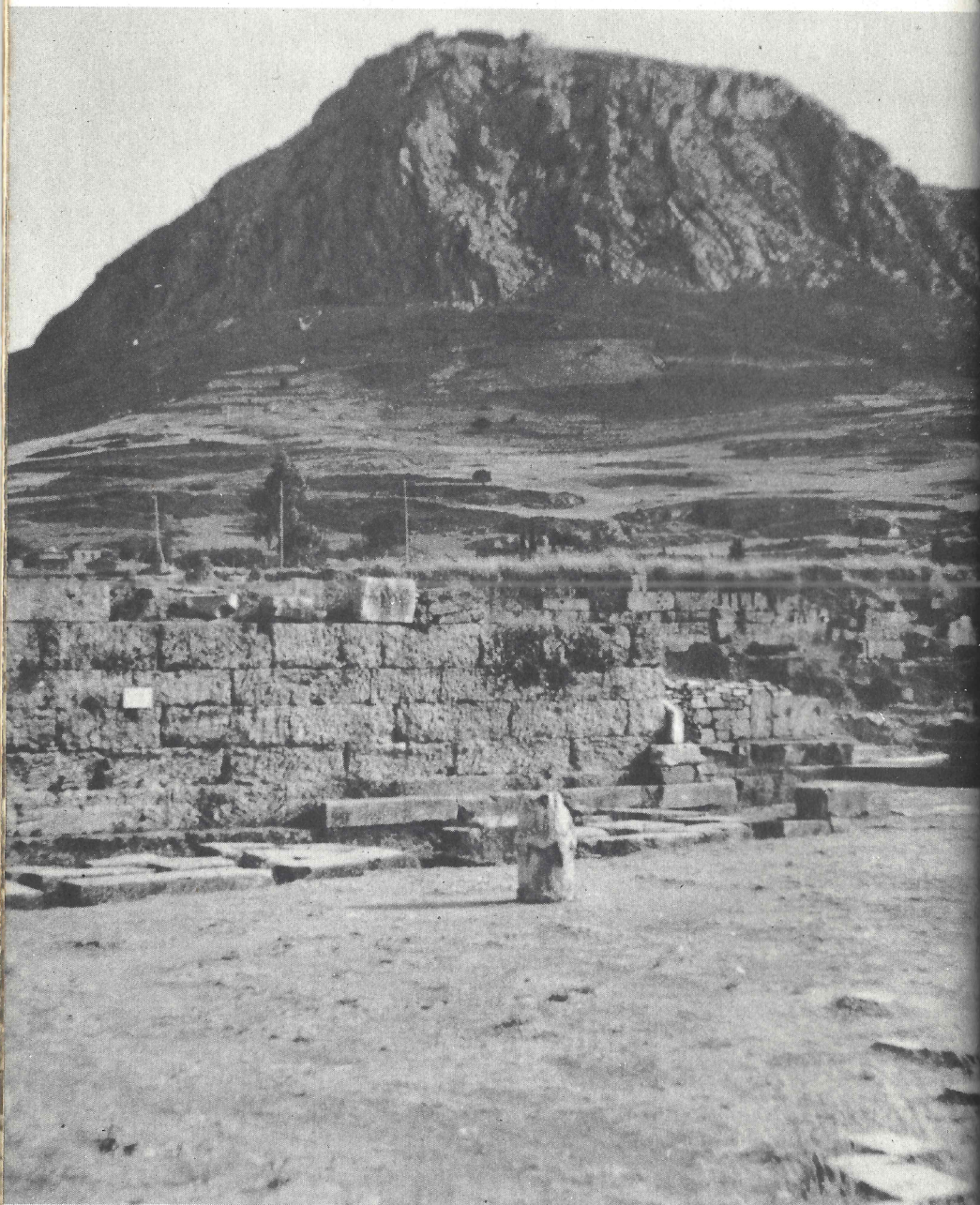
Up to now their finds have been largely Roman—among them the Imperial buildings on the foundations of the Greek Agora, the nymphaeum with its bubbling fountain where the Roman proconsul enjoyed the cool of the evening, and the Odeion (whose auditorium had seats for 3,000) as well as the road which led from the port of Lechaion to the market place.

One of the outstanding discoveries of recent years has been the Bema, the ceremonial rostrum on which the Roman Governor appeared before the people. This building, identified by a Roman inscription, is where the apostle Paul defended himself before the Proconsul Gallio (Acts, Chapter 18).

Now that Roman Corinth has largely been revealed, the director of the American school, Henry S. Robinson, is intent on finding the Greek foundations that must lie beneath it. Remains of the Greek city are already

Next page: Even after 2,000 years, traces of pomp and grandeur remain. This is Roman Corinth, built over the ruins of Greek Corinth.





Left: This tier of stonework is the Bema at Corinth, where the Roman Governor stood to address the people. The small pointed stone casting a long shadow in front of the Bema marks the spot where St. Paul is believed to have stood while defending himself before Gallio.

Right: Some 300,000 tons of earth had to be removed to reveal the extent of the Agora. Many other locations have hardly been scratched. Archaeologists will be needed for generations to come.



12.

THE FIRST STEP

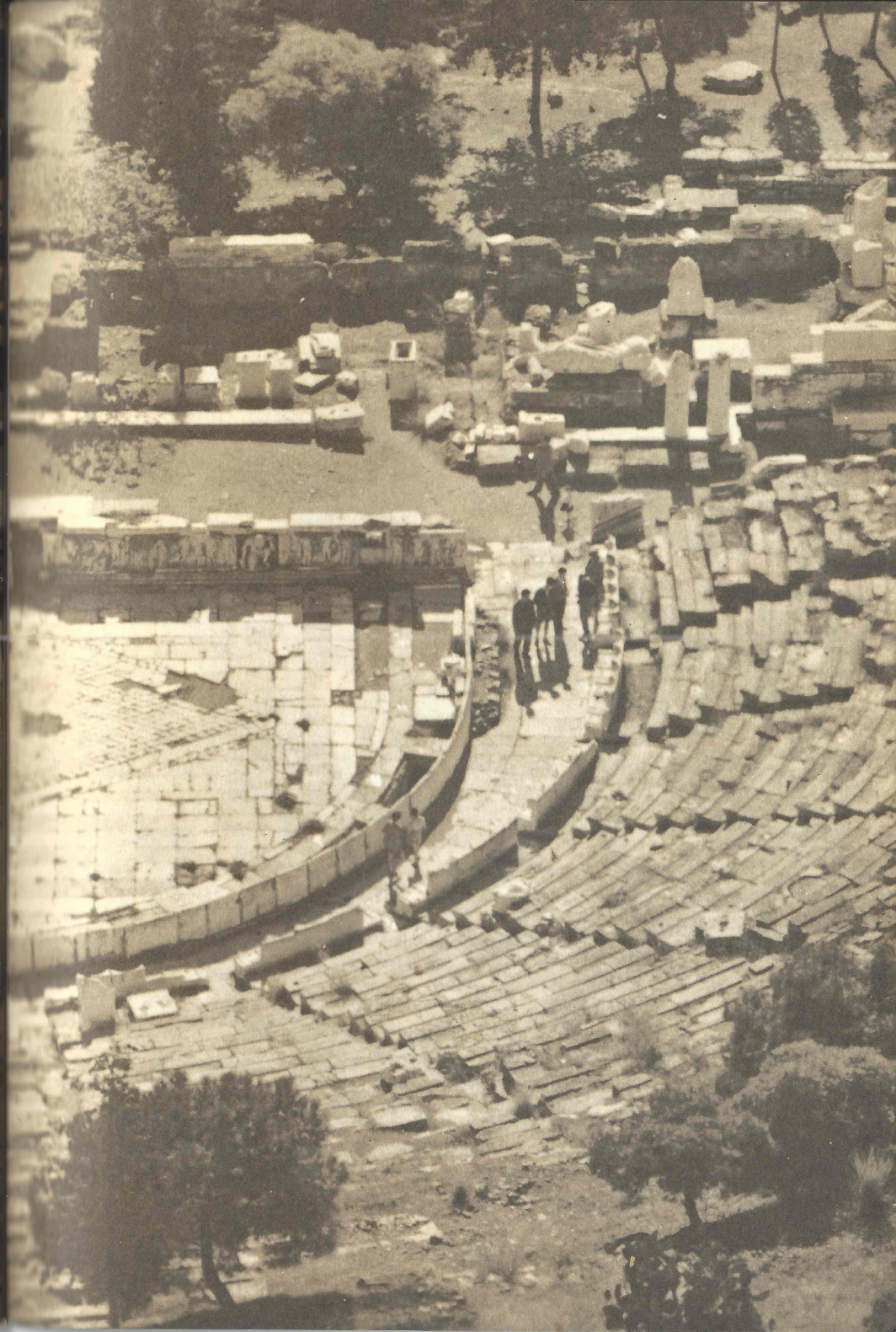
coming to light. A cemetery with an underground chapel has been discovered, a race course with starting lines and traces of chariot wheels, and the foundations of houses and shops.

These still have to be fully investigated. If continuity is maintained, some of the work that lies ahead will be carried out by American archaeologists as yet unborn.

The Greeks have good reason to welcome this enthusiasm by other nations whose projects extend into many future decades. The country is so rich in antiquities, that without such help it would be impossible to undertake more than a fraction of the work that needs to be done.

The staff of the Greek Archaeological Service is comparatively small and very overworked. Every report of a significant discovery requires investigation. If on some remote island in the Cyclades a farmer's plough turns up a piece of sculpture, it cannot just be ignored. An expert may have to go from Athens to investigate. This interrupts routine. Twenty years after the end of the war the National Museum in Athens is still without a printed catalogue and has only a fraction of its priceless treasures on show.

Next page: The Theatre of Dionysus, on the southern slopes of the Acropolis; discovered in 1862; here 17,000 spectators could watch the plays of Aeschylus and Euripides.





In the basement of the British Museum, author Felix Barker checks a point in his manuscript. The inscriptions are not Greek, but Assyrian.

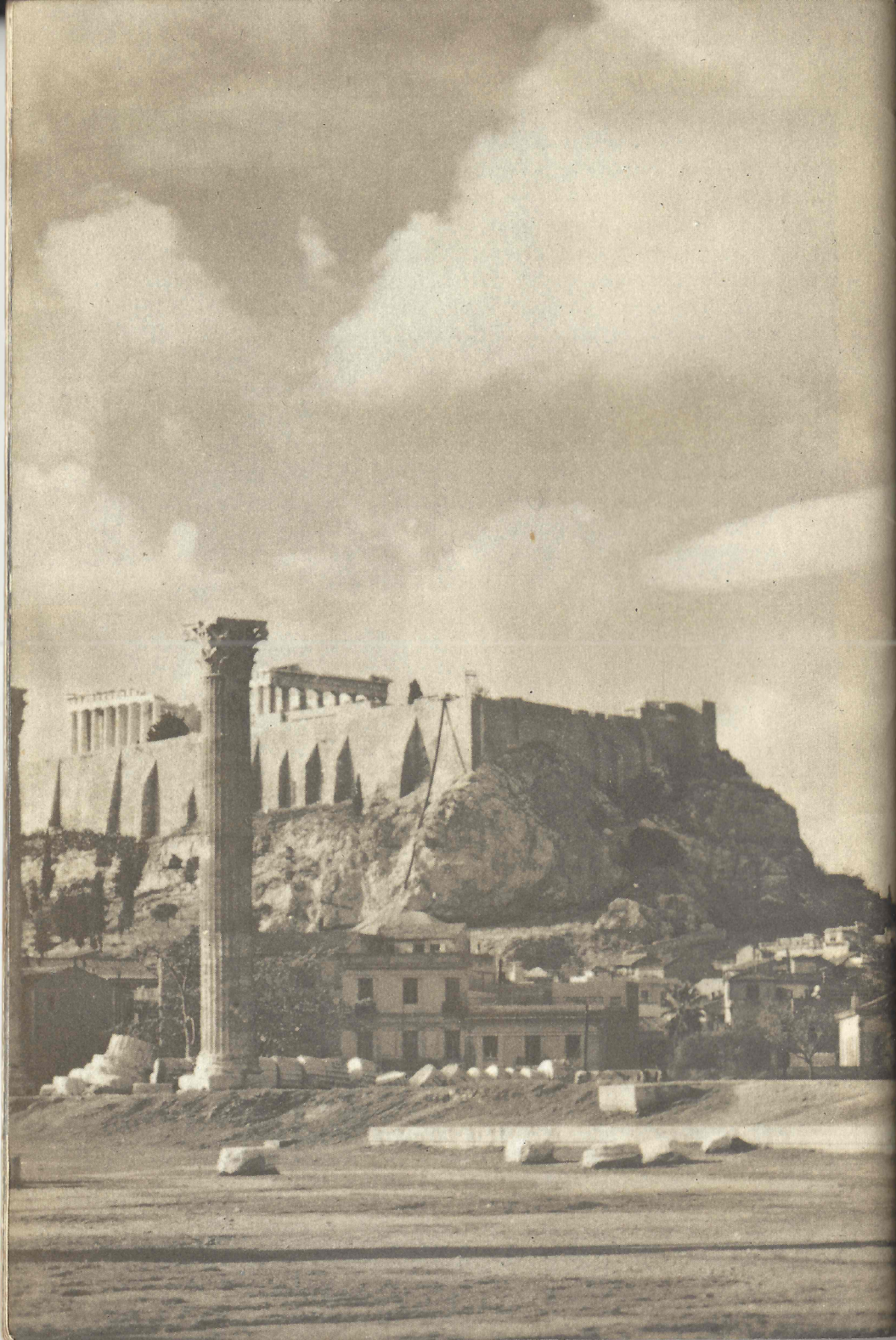
More staff and money are badly needed for the endless work to be done, and in these circumstances the Greek Government is naturally anxious to issue permits to foreign "schools" and encourage university expeditions from abroad.

Old wounds created in the days of "battleship archaeology" have almost healed, though periodically a campaign, highly vocal but unofficial, is launched for the return of the Elgin Marbles from the British Museum. The United States has no such Greek skeleton in its cupboard. Most American Museums were created after 1875, the date of the ban on the export of antiquities.

Only the grant of money by America has made possible a huge undertaking like the clearing of the Agora in Athens, and for this, as for other archaeological help from abroad, Greece is grateful. In their turn, the United States and European countries can feel that their work is in some measure the repayment of an inestimable debt—the debt we all owe to the land from which our classical heritage came.



Next page: The ruined Temple of Olympian Zeus stands in the foreground with the Acropolis and the Parthenon in the background. Compare this view with those on pages 9 and 10.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

FELIX BARKER, author and journalist, is the archaeological correspondent of The London *Evening News*. In travels all over Europe and the Middle East he has carried out research in the field at Mycenae, Pompeii, the Egyptian Pyramids, Leptis Magna in North Africa, the Lascaux caves in France and elsewhere. In 1961 he made a special visit to Greece for the Science Program. Mr. Barker has written a series of studies on lost civilizations and their rediscovery by the archaeologists. When the 1,600-year-old Temple of Mithras was discovered in the City of London in 1954, he was actually on the site when a remarkable find—the head of the god Serapis—was made. Mr. Barker is married, has two children, and lives in London.

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